

REMARKS

Claims 1-5, 7-9 and 11-20 are pending in the present application. Reexamination and reconsideration are respectfully requested.

The Examiner rejected all of the pending claims under § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Snyder (US 6643641 B1) in view of Takahashi et al. (US 5819261). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

The present invention, as set forth in claim 1, allows a user to conduct a search through information sites with a query. The query contains an item keyword (e.g., commodity "A") and action keyword (e.g., "purchase") indicating an action to be made on the item. Moreover, the present invention also allows registering directory information of a new information site with an item keyword and an action keyword.

Specifically, claim 1 recites "the query containing an item keyword indicating an item as a target of searching and an action keyword indicating an action to be made on the item" and "registering directory information of a new information site in the searching server together with an item keyword and an action keyword matching contents information presented by the new information site in response to a request for registration of the new information site from a client terminal."

The Examiner at page 4 of the Office Action concedes that Snyder does not disclose the above recitations and cites Takahashi to make up for the deficiencies of Snyder. Applicants respectfully disagree.

Takahashi relates to a text based searching method. The method seeks to avoid having the user input words to be searched. Rather, the user simply highlights a section of text, and the method extracts keywords from the highlighted text for searching a database. The Examiner notes

that the extraction method apparently extracts nouns and verbs, citing Col. 19, line 50 to Col. 20, line 6.

However, the cited section actually teaches the opposite. It discloses that the extracted words are compared to an "improper keyword dictionary." The dictionary includes words having parts of speech such as verbs. (See Col 19, line 53.) Any extracted words that are found in the improper keyword dictionary are then excluded from the keyword list used to search the database. (Col. 19, line 67 to Col. 20, line 6.) Thus, the cited section actually discloses *not* using an action keyword for a search query.

In view of the above, Takahashi also fails to disclose registering directory information based on an item keyword and an action keyword. Furthermore, Applicants respectfully note that there would be need to register directory information of new information site in Takahashi as it is simply directed to free word search of existing files in a database.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit claim 1 is patentable over Snyder and Takahashi.

Applicants respectfully submit that the remainder of the pending claims are patentable over Snyder and Takahashi for at least reasons similar to the discussion set forth above with respect to claim 1.

The Examiner rejected claims 3, 7 and 9 under § 112, second paragraph, for using the words "such that." All three claims recite providing a list of various item keywords and action keywords that allows the user to select an item keyword and action keyword. The words "such that" simply reflect that what is being providing can be used by the user. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection be withdrawn.

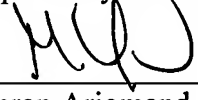
In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

If, for any reason, the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, Applicants request that the Examiner contact the undersigned attorney at the Los Angeles telephone number (213) 892-5630 to discuss any steps necessary to place the application in condition for allowance.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing Docket No. 393032029200.

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Respectfully submitted,

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